

**Town Meeting Coordinating Committee**  
**Approved Minutes for Thursday, September 20, 2012,**  
**3:00 – 5:30 pm**  
**First Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall**

Present: Peggy Roberts, Mary Streeter, Melissa Perot, Nonny Burack, Patricia Holland, Alan Powell, Carol Gray. Also present, Select Board liaison, Aaron Hayden.

Peggy called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

**Audio Improvements for Town Meetings:** Kris Pacunas had to cancel. The committee members went to the Town Room to try out the new speakers. We tested the new portable microphones, and the new speaker seemed to amplify well and clearly. Still to be determined is whether the amplification needed by the hard of hearing will be too loud for those with normal hearing. The Audio Subcommittee and Kris Pacunas are investigating audio improvements for the Middle School Auditorium.

**TMCC Budget:** To determine what amount TMCC will need for FY2014, Alan will find out the costs for future bus trips and Nonny will make an estimate of how much is needed for postage, postcard, handouts. Nonny suggested having Town Meeting tote bags.

**Support for Dependent Care:** The Town Manager asked TMCC to submit a proposal for funding of dependent care. The committee is unclear about how this item will be funded in FY13. Melissa noted there were two issues involved here: funds to pay dependent care costs of TM members in FY2013 and for those in FY2014. It was suggested that in the future such costs be included in the budget line for Town Meeting expenses rather than TMCC's budget. Pat asked whether members of other town committees have such expenses; Alan thought members of all committees should be reimbursed. At Mary's suggestion, we agreed to do a survey of TM members' needs for reimbursement for dependent care in order to attend TM sessions. That would help us estimate the amount of money for this budget item. Carol urged Select Board member Aaron Hayden to raise with the Select Board the issue of reimbursement of such expenses. Mary suggested he could do so as part of his report on this meeting to the Select Board. He agreed.

**Information Forum:** Carol reported she has contacted Stephanie Ciccarello to speak on global warming issues and has also contacted a Mount Holyoke geology professor. Mary advised they should focus on issues for Town Meeting action. It would be helpful to include a handout informing people of the next steps they can take. Carol has also contacted Susan Waite, who runs the town's recycling program. Peggy cautioned that we will soon be dealing with issues related to the closing of the landfill. Melissa suggested the focus be on better public transportation to cut down the use of private cars.

**Response to Select Board Suggestions:** On the issue of questions raised by TM members, Mary suggested the Moderator might set aside a time for questions or have a longer question period in the Warrant Review. There was discussion that it is important that the Planning Board offer an informational session for TM members. Peggy will write a letter to the Select Board about their concerns.

**Warrant Review:** Peggy has contacted several people to announce the date of the Warrant Review.

**Bus Tour:** The bus tour will take place Sunday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2-4 PM. That is the day before TM begins. Pat will reserve the bus.

**Precinct Meetings:** Mary gave the schedule as follows:

11/13, precs. 7 & 8, Crocker Farm, 7 PM, contact people: Carol Gray and Mary Streeter

11/14, precs. 9 & 2. Prof. Dev. Center, ARMS, 7 PM, contact people: Barbara Ford and Peggy Roberts

11/15, precs. 1 & 3, Church Parish Hall, 7 PM, contact people: Nonny Burack and Janet Keller

11/17, precs. 4 & 10, Police Station, 7 PM, contact person: Alan Powell

11/18 or 11/17, precs. 5 & 6, place to be determined, contact people: Kevin Eddings and Faythe Turner

**TMCC Website/Listserv Material:** Mary said publicity via the website should be ready 2 weeks before an event if we want to advertise via a banner on the main web page. She will send out the dependent care survey question on the listserv as well as Kris's Notify Me notice.

**Scheduling of Meetings:** Tues., Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 3-5:30; Wed., Oct. 10, 3-5:30.

**Minutes:** Discussion postponed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Submitted by Patricia Holland, Clerk

**Documents Distributed:**

Agenda

Minutes for August 27<sup>th</sup>